

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: John F. Stufflebeam et al.) PATENT APPLICATION

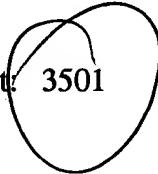
Serial No.: 08/700,216)

Filed: August 20, 1996)

For: VACUUM SEED
METERING MECHANISM)

Examiner: Not Yet Designated

Group Art Unit: 3501



A2
9/18/97
6/13/99

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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JUL 12 1997

Sir:

GROUP 3500

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97, 1.98 and 1.99, the art identified on the attached PTO-1449 Form, a copy of which art is enclosed, may be helpful to the Patent and Trademark Office during examination of the above identified patent application.

The cited art discloses numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by the cited art. The Examiner, however, is requested to review the references and determine the extent of the materiality of the references disclosure with respect to the patentability of the subject invention.

The citation of these references herein is not to be construed as an admission that the disclosure contained in such art is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the disclosure in such art is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the disclosure contained in such is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by U.S. patent laws with respect to the instant invention and application.

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Moreover, the listing of these references is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

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Respectfully submitted,

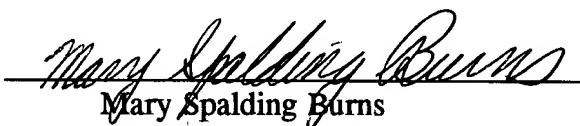
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May 27, 1997

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT and references cited therein are being enclosed in an envelope being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 27, 1997.


Mary Spalding Burns